

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for analyzing routes to a destination address space, comprising:

identifying a plurality of paths, each path beginning at a different source and terminating at a common destination address space;

identifying a plurality of nodes for each of the plurality of paths;

identifying at least one convergence point between at least two of the paths, wherein the convergence point is a common node for the at least two paths, said at least two paths being non-diverse from the convergence point to the destination address space;

associating the convergence point with the destination address space;

determining a path performance for each of the at least two paths, wherein the path performance is based on a path performance from the source of each path to the convergence point; and

analyzing the at least two paths to the destination address space.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein analyzing the at least two paths to the destination address space, comprises selecting a route to the destination address space based upon the relative path performances for the at least two paths.

3. (Original) The method of Claim 2, wherein the at least two paths include a first path and a second path and wherein selecting a route to the destination address space based upon the relative path performances for the at least two paths comprises selecting the first path, further comprising:

determining a current path performance for the first path;
comparing the current path performance to the path performance for the first path; and
based upon the comparison, selecting the second path as the route to the destination address space.

4. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein analyzing the at least two paths to the destination address space, comprises determining diversity for the at least two paths.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 4, further comprising analyzing path length for the at least two paths.

6. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein analyzing the at least two paths to the destination address space provides network topology information that is used in connection with network planning activities.

7. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein analyzing the at least two paths to the destination address space provides information used to evaluate distance and volume for a plurality of destinations, including the destination address space.

8. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
periodically determining the path performance for each of the at least two paths.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

determining an aggregated address space that includes the destination address space and that is associated with the convergence point.

10. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

determining an aggregated address space that includes the destination address space, that is associated with multiple convergence points and that shares a common next hop.

11. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein identifying a plurality of paths comprises using an active path trace probe.

12. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein identifying a plurality of paths comprises using a passive flow analyzer.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the at least two paths include a first path, further comprising:

associating the convergence point with additional destination address spaces; and
obtaining path performance information for the destination address space and the additional destination address spaces using a single measurement of the first path.

14.-26. (Cancelled)

27. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of paths pass through at least one public Internet Protocol network.

28. (New) The method of claim 27 wherein the at least one Internet Protocol network is a network of an Internet Service Provider.

29. (New) The method of claim 27 wherein the at least one Internet Protocol network is a Local Area Network.